



The Cross & Flame

Volume 28 Issue 9

September 2020

September 2020

Greetings All,
Late in May my article for this newsletter included information about a situation that happened and resulted with someone coming to the Mora church requesting assistance. My newsletter article was written from my perspective at the time. Writing from my perspective I neglected to consider the impact to others.

In the article I neglected to identify the location of an incident that lead up to a person arriving in Mora. By not identifying where the situation took place the article implied that the Kanabec County Sheriff's department was involved.

The situation resulting with someone at the church door did not happen in Kanabec County but instead happened somewhere in the Hinckley area. It was not the Kanabec County Sheriff's department that was involved but instead law enforcement from another county (I do not know which county).

By not identifying the county and saying that the person was taken by ambulance to the Mora hospital I implied, without saying it, that the Kanabec County Sheriff's department was involved.

My negligence in leaving out information was hurtful and unnecessary. For this I accept responsibility and am deeply sorry. To make matters worse it took me close to three months to see the wrong I had done.

I am sorry for the hurt and confusion created by the article I wrote in the June newsletter. I specifically ask for forgiveness from Sheriff Brian Smith, his department, and his family. The words cannot be unwritten, but I do pledge to use the most caution possible in future writings.



Blessings to All.
Pastor Deb

Worship Schedules

Mora UMC leadership, including Council, Worship, Finance, and others met August 13. At this meeting it was decided to continue with lawn chair worship and on-line worship. The opportunity to worship indoors will be evaluated again at the next meeting, September 10. The on-line worship premieres at 10:25 and can be viewed on Facebook anytime after. Lawn chair worship starts at 10:30 a.m. and is located between the building and the meditation garden.

Ogilvie UMC is worshipping indoors at 9 a.m. each Sunday. In addition to in-person worship the service is aired on Facebook starting at 8:55 and can be viewed anytime after. The use of social distancing and facemasks are encouraged.

A Reminder about Tuesdays Church Use

Please remember when CORE is here and you need to come into the church please use the WEST door by offices and DO NOT enter front door narthex area, fireside room, kitchen or any area near social hall where they are meeting. They sometimes have people in narthex or fireside room waiting to go in to meeting. Please observe this courtesy, thank you!

July Finance Report

Assets including designated funds in bank account \$40,828 (this total includes \$6,451 in our general fund which compares to \$6,912 in June). The \$12,500 loan we received from the Payroll Protection Program is included in the total bank account. We have no liabilities as our apportionments are paid in full year to date. Giving was down 26% from budget this last month and year to date is down 17% of budget compared to down 17% for June. Expenses were 19% over budget and year to date are 4% over budget compared to 4% under budget for June. Total assets in the Permanent Endowment Fund remain \$105,717. Detailed accounts balance report is available by request in the Church Office.

Our General Fund balance stays positive despite decreased giving related to COVID. This is thanks to several grants that we have applied for and received. The latest grant was for \$3250 that is helping fund needed church improvements that the Aesthetics Committee has been working on. We also received a \$1000 Dare to Reach Grant that will go towards upgrading technology needs to support our online services. Additional technology funding is needed and will be requested thru the Kanabec County Economic Development Authority – Cares Pandemic Grant Program. Earlier this year we received a \$10,000 Invest in Congregations Grant from the MN Annual Conference of the UMC. We have been blessed that these financial opportunities have been granted to us. A big thank you to Pastor Deb in her leadership and to the church members that have done the work of researching and submitting applications for these grants.

Keys Please!

Do you have church keys you no longer need or use? Would you kindly return them to the church when it is convenient to you? Thank you so much!

No Fall Rummage Sale

There will be NO fall rummage sale due to COVID restrictions.

September Birthdays & Anniversaries*

Ogilvie UMC

02 Alan & Michael Baumann
04 Laurie Torgeson
06 Kaye Carda
07 David Ulman
09 Rod Schaffran
28 Lori Huro

Mora UMC

01 Tommy Madison
03 Barbara Rische
05 Jack & Jani Sigstad
08 Ruth Smith
09 Rod Schaffran
11 Michael Anderson
12 Rhonda Stegeman
12 Jacob Ruud
14 Dave & Ginny Nordenstrom
16 James Gravning
17 Rowan Merkwon
17 Jacob & Breanna Ruud
18 Adley & Everley Nelson
21 Arlene Anderman
25 Skylar Voight
26 Taylor Bumann
27 Phyllis Roseberry
28 Peggy Smith
28 Jesse Stegeman
30 Desmond Merkwon

**Bold indicates anniversary*

Remembering our friends

Dorothy Carroll, Lorraine Kobberdahl

Florence Wahl

Eastwood Senior Living
170 Valhalla Circle
Mora, MN 55051

Avis Pixley

Hallett Cottages
350 4th Street
Crosby, MN 56441

APPROVED MINUTES – July 15, 2020
Church Council meeting.

Valerie called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. and Pastor Deb opened with a prayer Those in attendance meeting were Pastor Deb, Phyllis Roseberry, Ben Zeigler, Valerie Prax, Mike Prax, Steve Sigstad, Don Ripper-ton, Jan Anderson and Janell Anderson.

June minutes were approved
Financial Secretary's report was approved as presented M/S/C, Janell/Phyllis
Treasurer's report was approved as present-ed M/S/C Jan/Steve

Pastor's Time: Pastor Deb has been reap-pointed to the Mora and Ogilvie churches for this coming year. Minnesota Annual Conference is on line and starts August 29. Phyllis is available and willing to be the Lay Delegate and will be able to log into the webinar.

Ben's Time: We are back to in person and have two new participants, meeting out-side. A weekly zoom online VBS has started. It is with Calvary and Grace Lutheran, St Mary's Catholic and the Mora UM Church.

Trustees: The Esthetics committee contin-ues with its improvements and up dates, the room E conference room is done. The TV is hung on the arm in the sanctuary and looks great. There are two pews that have some structural damage and will be replaced with the two that have been in the back hallway. The plan is to have the Bell Tower painted this late summer/early fall. The Welcome Center is coming along.

Update on what churches are meeting in Mo-ra, both ELCA churches are not meeting, Zi-on Lutheran and St Mary's and Trio are meeting in person.

Janell and Valerie are still working on the guidelines we will follow to worship inside. We are still in the yellow zone for the guide-lines we were given by the conference.

After more discussion the decision was made to start meeting in person for worship, out-side, socially distant, with face masks pre-ferred. We will start on Sunday, July 26 and continue through August, weather permit-ting. We will meet on the south parsonage yard. Pastor will be to the east and the con-gregation will be to the west. The church will not be open. Online worship will continue to be released at 10:30 a.m. for those not attending in person. We will cancel in case of rain. We will ask any of those attending to bring their own chairs, and water. Janell will make signage directing the way and remind-ing people to space themselves out. She will pick up some water bottles just in case. Va-lerie will make sure there is hand sanitizer. Phyllis will pick up some disposable masks for anyone that might need one. Baskets will be put on stands for any offerings that are brought. The plate will not be passed. The guest book will be used as a pulpit. There is a cart with all the sound system needs ready to go. The keyboard will be used. Individual communion cups and wafers will be pur-chased for the first Sunday of August. The service will be in line with the online service – so less than an hour.

Ben will be paid for the two weeks he did the video work in July.

Jan/Steve M/S/C to adjourn at 7:40 pm.

Next meeting will be combined again on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janell Anderson, Council Secretary

Calling All Church Persons of the Mora United Methodist Church

It's time for our Annual Church Deep Cleaning!

All are asked to participate in this venture and ask that you do it as a family team due to the COVID health safe / social distancing practices. We need this done as soon as possible so our deadline is Friday, Sept 11. Please remember Tuesdays are off limits as we have a group that uses are church that day each week and we need to refrain from being in the church that day.

Areas to sign up for:

Sanctuary

Kitchen – Already taken – Val Prax/Jan Anderson (they may take help contact them)

Fellowship Hall

Bathrooms:

Back Hallway: Womens – Already taken – Paula V.

Unisex/handicap -

Front Hallway: Womens -

Mens –

From my understanding all the other areas have been taken care of.

Please call Carmel Gorham at 320-260-5596 with any questions or to sign up to do an area. Please let her know, either by leaving a message or in person, that you are willing to help, what day you plan on doing it, and when you plan on having it done.

Thank you for your help –

Trustees, Esthetics Group & WICS

Fall Word Search



ACORN
APPLE
AUTUMN
CHESTNUTS
CHILLY
CIDER
COBWEB
FALL
FOOTBALL
GOURD

HALLOWEEN
HARVEST
HAY BALE
HAYRIDE
LEAVES
MAIZE
NOVEMBER
NUTS
OCTOBER
PUMPKIN

QUILT
RAKE
SCARECROW
SEPTEMBER
SLEET
THANKSGIVING



Mora United Methodist Church

“Living for Christ, Sharing His Love”

500 Clark Street, Mora, MN 55051-1804
320-679-2713 ~ Handicapped Accessible

Pastor Debra Schaffran

952-240-3836 ~ debraschaffran@gmail.com

Office Administrator Colleen R. Hendershot

moraogilvie.umcs@gmail.com

Office Administrator Hours: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Wed. – Fri.

10:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship
Through mid-September

LIKE US on Facebook:

facebook.com/moraunitedmethodistchurch

Visit us online: moraumc.org

Ogilvie United Methodist Church

*“To know Jesus Christ as our risen Lord
and serve Him throughout the world”*

201 West Bragg Street, PO Box 267, Ogilvie, MN 56358
320-272-4255 ~ Handicapped Accessible

Pastor Debra Schaffran

952-240-3836 ~ debraschaffran@gmail.com

9 a.m. Worship

LIKE US on Facebook:

facebook.com/ogilvieunitedmethodistchurch

Visit us online:

moraumc.org/ogilvie-united-methodist-church



September

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mora/Ogilvie United Methodist Churches
Parish Office: 500 Clark Street
Mora, Minnesota 55051-1804
320-679-2713

